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DRAFT REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME MATTERS ON ITS IN-SESSIONAL MEETING HELD DURING THE FORTIETH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, 1-18 JUNE 1993

Rapporteur: Mr. Thomas STELZER (Austria)

Addendum

CHAPTER III. COUNTRY, INTERCOUNTRY AND GLOBAL PROGRAMMES (continued)

D. Latin America and the Caribbean

2. Extensions of country programmes

Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Guyana, Netherlands Antilles, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago

1. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (RBLAC), introduced the requests for a second extension of eight country programmes: first country programme for Aruba (DP/CP/ARU/1/EXTENSION II, with a net indicative planning figure (IPF) of $153,000); second country programme for the Bahamas (DP/CP/BHA/2/EXTENSION II, with cost-sharing of $65,000, no IPF); fourth country programme for Barbados (DP/CP/BAR/4/EXTENSION II, with a net IPF of $228,000); second country programme for the British Virgin Islands (DP/CP/BVI/2/EXTENSION II, with a net IPF of $60,000); fourth country programme for Guyana (DP/CP/GUY/4/EXTENSION II, with a net IPF of $2.9 million); second country programme for the Netherlands Antilles (DP/CP/NAN/2/EXTENSION II, with cost-sharing of $762,000, no IPF); third country programme for Suriname (DP/CP/SUR/3/EXTENSION II, with a net IPF of $248,000); and fourth country programme for Trinidad and Tobago (DP/CP/TRI/4/EXTENSION II, with a net IPF of $480,000).

2. The Assistant Administrator noted the vulnerability of the countries to changes in the international economy as well as in the natural environment. Conventional indicators such as per capita income were proving to be increasingly unreliable measures of human development in the context of small island countries. With the exception of Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago, the countries under discussion had attained net contributor or similar status and had relatively small IPFs. The fifth cycle programmes for those countries were expected to be submitted to the Governing Council at its forty-first session (1994).

3. One delegation recommended that the tourism sector for Aruba be reviewed to ensure that the projections for expansion of the sector were compatible with the long-term sustainable development prospects of the island. Another delegation recommended that UNDP assistance be directed to projects that bolstered the Government's ability to promote economic development and endorsed programmes directed at training government personnel in project development, implementation and evaluation. He proposed that the sectoral orientation of the programme for Suriname be reviewed to place more emphasis on the development of cooperatives and assistance to the vegetable and fisheries sector, focusing on small producers. Further efforts to make a stock assessment of coastal resources were encouraged and support was noted for UNDP proposals to develop energy alternatives and conservation promotion, especially in rural areas.

4. The Committee recommended that the Council approve the second extensions of the country programmes for Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, the British Virgin Islands, Guyana, the Netherlands Antilles, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.